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flukes connected with eating the pork from a hog which harbors the parasite in question, and inspectors should not, therefore, condemn the meat of such animals on the ground of the presence of the worms in the lungs.

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FLOATING DISINFECTING PLANTS SENT TO MATANZAS AND CIENFUEGOS,  
CUBA.

The Marine-Hospital Service has just sent to Cuba 2 floating disinfecting plants equipped with all modern disinfecting machinery for service at the ports of Matanzas and Cienfuegos, respectively.

In constructing these barges, the hulks of sailing vessels were purchased, the necessary alterations made to fit them for the reception of machinery, and they were then provided with steam chambers, formaldehyd apparatus, sulphur furnaces, bichloride pumps, etc. A large iron steamer took the 2 vessels in tow at the port of Philadelphia, and they arrived at their destinations without any mishap, and are now anchored in convenient positions in the harbors, ready for immediate service. The *Guardian* was sent to Matanzas arriving December 4, and the *Sentinel* to Cienfuegos arriving December 8.

[Reports to the Surgeon-General United States Marine-Hospital Service.]

*Smallpox in Houston County, Ga.*

MOBILE, ALA., December 7, 1900.

SIR: In obedience to orders received December 2, 1900, directing me to proceed at once to Perry, Houston County, Ga., and confer with local authorities and decide disputed diagnosis of smallpox, and to advise authorities as to best method of management, etc., I have the honor to state that I left Mobile at 12 o'clock midnight December 2, arriving at Fort Valley, in Houston County, the afternoon of the 3d; this was Sunday, and as no trains are run from Fort Valley to Perry on Sunday, I took a private conveyance, thus saving about eighteen hours' time. I arrived at Perry the same evening. The mayor of the city, Colonel Davis, called the same evening and we talked over the situation. The municipal authorities were not particularly interested except as to preventive measures, as the disease has not developed in the town of Perry yet, but is on several plantations in different parts of the county.

The county judge or ordinary, Judge Hearst, was present at this consultation, as he represented the county, and was more particularly interested. I adopted his suggestion to visit the different sections of the county and see each separate set of cases.

It has generally been my practice when there is a difference of opinion as to diagnosis, to request the attendance of at least 1 physician from each side, in order that I may make the differential diagnosis in their presence and point out the different phases of the disease to them; but in this case Drs. Cater and Williams, the only physicians who had seen the disease, agreed, as I afterwards found, that it is smallpox, but owing to the mildness of the type the people in the vicinity were unwilling to accept this opinion or to take proper precautions. I was, therefore, requested to visit the cases alone.

On Monday morning I drove down to the Duncan place, about 8 miles southeast of Perry. The first house visited was inhabited by 6 negroes, man, wife, and 4 children. All had the disease, but in various stages. The man stated that he had been sick thirty days. The eruption, which had been general, was fading. The woman was in the pustular stage. The children had escaped with very mild attacks. Children have very mild cases, often not going to bed at all, and notwithstanding that neither the child or its parents have ever been vaccinated the eruption is very sparse, frequently leaving no scars. In the same house we often find the adults suffering from rather severe cases. In one house a man had died from the trouble, and in another a man of 60 had a confluent case, and still the children had escaped with mild attacks. This seems to be characteristic, this mild form of the disease, as I have noted it in two or three epidemics.

The second house visited on the Duncan place there were 4 cases, all the family, 1 confluent. At the third house there were 3 cases; 1 man had died at this house of the disease. At the fourth house there was 1 case, with 6 more people in the house who will probably have it.

After finishing at the Duncan place I returned to Perry, and was joined by Dr. Cater. The diagnosis having been confirmed, there was no longer necessity for my going alone. We visited the Howard place, 10 miles north of Perry; here, for the first time, I found the disease in the white race. A young lady, of about 20 years of age, was suffering from rather a severe case of discrete smallpox. Two children in this family had had such mild cases that it had been considered chicken pox.

From the Howard place we went to Cathlene, a small village on the Georgia Southern Railroad. The disease at Cathlene is confined to 1 house; there were 3 cases, all mild.

On Tuesday morning we visited the Cooper place, 9 miles east of Perry; here I saw 3 or 4 more cases. After having visited the 3 sections of the county in which the disease existed, I met the county commissioners at the court-house and talked to them about the state of affairs. I pointed out the necessity for immediate action.

The building of a smallpox hospital for the accommodation of all cases presents considerable difficulties owing to the widely separated points of infection. However, I strongly advised them to build such a hospital or to use tents for the purpose, and to establish a camp at once.

The necessity for a detention barracks for the accommodation of those who had been exposed, but who had not yet developed the disease, was pointed out. The beneficial results of successful vaccination were also shown, and in this connection I found it necessary to advise the authorities to at once obtain a sufficient supply of pure glycerinated virus. I was informed that about 200 people had been vaccinated within the past few weeks with virus supplied by the State. I took pains to examine a great many arms, and in not one single instance did I find a protective sore; the only effect these vaccinations have had is to lull the person into a fancied, but false, security.

I found a great deal of opposition to vaccination, even among the most intelligent people. This, I think, was overcome by explaining the protection afforded and the absolute safety of the operation when properly performed with pure virus.

The city authorities requested advice concerning the public schools. I advised that no child be admitted unless he or she could present a physician's certificate showing a recent successful vaccination; those who had a good mark from a former successful vaccination to be admitted only after revaccination.

I also give full information concerning the proper mode of disinfecting houses with sulphur dioxide or with bichloride solution after mechanical cleansing. And as to the disinfection by boiling for two hours, all blankets, quilts, sheets, and clothing, the emptying of mattresses, burning the contents, and the boiling of the ticking, the submersion in hocl 2, 1-1000, of shoes, hats, etc., injured by boiling.

I returned by way of Atlanta in order to consult with the governor regarding a compulsory vaccination law, but he was absent from the city.

I was very much surprised at the number of people who have not been vaccinated; probably not more than one-fourth have undergone this operation.

The disease was introduced, I was informed, from Cordale, a town in an adjoining county. The printed matter received by mail was distributed. The authorities, both county and city, expressed themselves as much pleased with the prompt action of the Service.

Respectfully,

W. P. McINTOSH,  
Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

*Smallpox in Kansas during November, 1900.*

TOPEKA, KANS., December 5, 1900.

SIR: In compliance with the resolutions adopted by the national conference of State and provincial boards of health at Toronto, 1886, and Washington, 1887, it becomes my duty to inform you that smallpox has been reported to this office from the following points in the State of Kansas during the month of November, 1900: Abilene, Dickinson County, 3 cases; Cherokee County, 5 cases; Colby, Rawlins County, 2 cases; Hope, Dickinson County, 1 case; Lawrence, Douglas County, 1 case; Lecompton, Douglas County, 5 cases; Florence, Marion County, 1 case; Ramona, Marion County, 2 cases; Thomas County, 4 cases; Wichita, 10 cases; Topeka, 3 cases. Total number of cases, 37.

Respectfully,

W. B. SWAN, M. D.,  
Secretary State Board of Health.

*Smallpox in Russell, Ky.*

RUSSELL, KY., November 20, 1900.

SIR: I have to inform you that we have an epidemic of smallpox in this village. Upon the advice of a physician and health officer, I will commence to-day to fumigate all mail originating in this office, and will continue to do so until all danger is past unless otherwise ordered by you. Hoping this will meet your approval.

Respectfully,

J. J. CALLAHAN,  
Postmaster.

*Case of smallpox at Detroit, Mich.*

DETROIT, MICH., December 5, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to report seaman Joseph Cedar suffering from smallpox in the pustular state; came to the out-patient office yesterday from the steamer *P. F. Faxton*. He had been on this boat for the last twenty-six days, and stated that he had not been ashore during that time. It was impossible to obtain from him an accurate history of his case, but from appearance he must have been sick for at least ten days. He shipped at this port and touched at some of the ports of the upper peninsular.